PHIL BLAKE'S EXPLOIT.

The growing city of Granopolis was excited. Its three stores, five saloons, and a dozen or more of scattered "resi dences" fairly glowed—not under the broad beams of the August sun, so much as under the inspiration of the moment. For to-day the last tie was firmly laid, the last nail driven into the grain depot, extending townward from the bridge that apanned the somewhat narrow and rather muddy current of the Wildcat; and to-morrow the happy citizens would be blessed with the sight of the furious locomotive turning the curve of the hills, full in sight of the town, and steaming past the stubble-fields flanking both sides of the track—rushing, as it were, full into their welcome arms. To this effect were the enthusiastic speeches deon the following day to swelter in the heat and await the oncoming passenger train; speeches given by Dr. Burns, the big man of the place, whose little white gradually increasing for the last hour, cottage, nearly hidden by its orchard, on blew now with fury from the west—a its well-kept grounds, to say nothing of the owner's prosperous air and Miss Susie's fine piano, the boasted ornament of Granopolis, seemed to give credence to the report that sheep ranches were to the report that sheep ranches were more lucrative to their fortunate possessor than the practice of his noble profession. Given, also, by Philip Blake, that tide of good-for-nothings whose hands turn naturally to anything, especially to raking up the ashes and reinvigorating a county paper, well-nigh dead of inanition. This handsome speci-men of such a class, swept onward with overseer, then a book-keeper, had underhad, to his own surprise, found himself unusually willing to pursue it in the dull town, finding his only gleam of a brighter atmosphere in Susie Burns' eyes. smoke blown southward toward the Speeches were given, also, by the most prominent tradesmen and saloon-keepers
—men who have found their business men who have found their business wonderfully increased by the inhabitants of yonder canvas dwellings, which have sprung up like mushrooms along the line of the road, and who trust to find a still further profit in the business always Only a moment, and his clear, strong the line of the road, and who trust to find a still further profit in the business always only a moment, and his clear, strong the line of the river's bank. Heavens: the winder large layer in the winder layer in th evidenced already, they proudly assert, in yonder imposing structures— the red-wood depot and the frame of the ten-roomed hotel—which scorch the eyes

Now, men look at their watches contantly; a hum of expectation runs brough the crowd; a bell is heard, a sharp whistle—hurrah! here it comes, rounding the curve in grand style, and with flags flying, amid cheers and wav-ings of hat and handkerchief—for the softer sex have turned out to a womanhere it comes, panting and snorting, and in its route, leaping creeks, and stealing stops short, amid the crowd edging off down to the edge of the river, catching on each side like some proud, impatient yet tractable thing, its work completed,

awaiting the praises of its master.

A party—a wonderful thing in that work day town—was to be given on that night at the Burns residence. To it were hidden the young farmers of the neighborhood, their wives, sisters and sweethearts. Philip Blake, who, as editor, occupied a higher position than ever before, some employes of the railroad, the few clerks of the stores in town, and a few old cronies of the Doctor and his long dead wife. The house was decorated to the utmost extent of Susie's knowledge; all the rooms were thrown open to the guests, and in the long, cool witchen were spread tables covered with country dainties. Dr. Burns was thoroughly hospitable when hospitality did not interfere with his comfort, and tonight was in his most genial mood, happy in the prosperity of the little town where Fate had cast his lot, and in the near prospect of incorporation, lighting the remaining for a moment, then renewing the assault; now creeping close to the ground, shasing on that dense mass of smoke, now leaping high in air with hellish exultation.

The discussion was of short duration.

"Men," cried Dr. Burns, "the bridge must go down. Bring axes, you that want to save your homes!" And he seized one near at hand himself and swung it on high, when a workman hurried up and interfered. "Dr. Burns," he cried, "I hearn'em say there's a construction train coming in at twelve to night for to lay them switches yender, and now it wants only ten minutes of twelve." Dr. Burns dropped the axe.

"Telegraph," he shouted. The man shook his head. "Too late, sir," he said: "she's left the last station half an hour ago." The men looked at one another with faces from which all hope had stidenly died out, and sobs were heard listingly four the ground. the near prospect of incorporation, which would probably add to his emoluments the honorable office of Mayor. Susie, with her sweet, innocent brilliant complexion, and great d eyes, made a charming ses in her utter forgetfulness of salf and anxiety that every guest should find each moment full of pleasure. So at least thought Phillip, as he lounged over a photograph album, seemingly oblivious of the fact that every girl in the room stole looks at him in the pauses of the dance and every heart throbbed with hope when he rose at last to seek a partner. Susie had been playing for some-time; he leaned over the piano and said; "Here comes old Simms with his fiddle;

bit discuss and every lever intelligent of the control of the property lever intelligent of the control of the property lever intelligent of the control of the property lever in the lever in the control of the lever in the lev

her regrets, bitter and useless; and he, with the chivalry that true manhood teaches, silenced the pain in his heart till she was somewhat comforted, and then went out into the lonely street, and so down to the river's edge, wondering what next. This was the first cup of disappointment, which life had forced him to drisk; hithertono advantages or triumphs had seemed to him worth the pains taken to gain them, and the chief faults of his nature were his sluggishness of temperament and his passive acceptance of cir-cumstances, which had more than once led him into difficulties which, in a less generous or less naturally honorable man. would surely have proven the high road to ruin. Hitherto he had avoided the meaner vices of those companions with whom fate had thrown him, and whom he had not tried to avoid; now he felt that his future life would hold the image of one sweet girl, which, like an amulet, would keep him pure. He did not blame her, only himself, for the hasty speech which could never be recalled, and his was not a nature to turn bitter under disappointment. "Well," he thinks, "life has something left still, and I am not one to throw it away for the sake of a woman, ivered to the thirsty crowd assembled if she be the one of all the world for

How hot it grew, while he paced up and down! The breeze which had been blew now with fury from the west-a the slope of the hill facing the river, and scorehing wind, like that blowing over crackling sound, as of a thousand demons, treading down the dry stubble of the fields! Fire in the fields, thought Philip; and to-night, of all nights with such a wind, and this frightful heat for three days past! Well, it's got to burn; the progress of the railroad, first an there's no stopping it now. Thank overseer, then a book-keeper, had under-heaven, it's on the other side of the river, taken such a task at Granopolis, and that's all. He watched it a moment, had, to his own surprise, found himself then, with a sudden pause of heart, foltown; then, with a furious plunge, the moving mass swept downward toward the river's bank. Heavens! the wind

voice rang out, "Fire! fire!" neard it even to the doctor's, on the hill and men, women, and children came pouring out; the old man raised from the slumber in his chair, and the young girl who had sobbed by his side, in her thin, white dress; many, startled from their sleep, came with wrappers thrown loosely about them, or with garments awry. All thronged down near the bridge where Philip stood, and where the men were hurriedly discussing the danger, mly too evident now. On swept the royal element, searing the few trees on the festoons of wild roses and wax berries, hissing on the damp mud, retiring for a moment, then renewing the

suddenly died out, and sobs were heard distinctly from the group of women hud-dled together, the mothers clasping their

children closely.
"To your homes, then," shouted the "To your homes, then," shouted the doctor; "save what you can, and when we shout to you hurry to the Bend"—a bend in the river which he evidently hoped they might reach, while the men stayed to fight the fire. But there was a sudden movement in the crowd, and Philip Blake stepped forward with somewhat of his careless air, yet with a manly bearing that sat better upon him than his usual nonchalance, "Stay here, sir," he said, "and cut down the bridge; I will go and stop the train." A sigh of relief went up from all, and many women

Trying to shout, rather; all his efforts producing only a dry rattle in his throat. With desperate energy he seized a handful of stones and flung them at the train the engineer, who, looking out, saw by the passing train the blackened and wounded remnant of a man, frantically waving a stick from which fluttered some-thing which had once been a red hand-kerchief. The short sharp whistle of "down brakes" ran out on the air, and the train stopped within hall of the eager crowd on the opposite bank of Wildcat river. Some went ahead and viewed the danger escaped, others went back and found Philip lying in the roadside in-

pain and of men who trod softly, and tended him gently, whose horny hands touched him tenderly, and of one whose untiring attendance was more skillful, and whose voice was more skillful, and whose voice was more pleasant than theirs. When, later on the day after, the train passed in over the new bridge, he was too weak even to ask why they cheered so loud outside, or to know that it was his name people were pronouncing so often and so gratefully, he turned to the manly face that smiled upon his, and was satisfied. The exciteon his, and was satisfied. The excitement had hurt him more than the flames or the falling bough of a tree that had broken his arm, and when health came slowly back he felt too glad to care that in his two poor, wasted ones' he said:
"I do congratulate you heartily. You have won the very best wife in the world, and you are the only man living worthy

long after the local papers had been issued. The Spectator, commenting on this fact, suggests that the time may come when the London Times will drive all other rivals out of the field, and will become the only political journal read in England. It is not impossible that an approach to this state of things may be brought about in England, where there is a dense population within the limits of an island, every part of which can be reached by fast trains in a few hours from London. Here the conditions are different, and, though the Herald and other papers have tried the experiment killed Lucas. The little narrow strip of sand with its thickets of cottonwoods had now become part and parcel of the history to study, either; too many tales of bloodshed and crime; too much of lawlessness and rapine. And now that long sand-bar became Bloody Island; a most proper name for the scene of such sanguinary deeds.

A few years lateranother affair of honor came off beneath the shade of the cottonwoods had now become part and parcel of the history to study, either; too many tales of bloodshed and crime; too much of lawlessness and rapine. And now that long sand-bar became Bloody Island; a most proper name for the scene of such sanguinary deeds.

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A few years lateranother affair of honor came off beneath the shade of the cotton-wood saplings on Bloody Island. In 1823 an article appeared in the Missouri Republican reflecting upon the official other papers have tried the experiment

the man who borrows. Second, one never cames to learn how to use borrowed tools, nor to keep them in order; and third, he who borrows never can be a good farmer. It is true that a young man, just starting, may be allowed to borrow some, but he should not establish the habit; or again, a man may borrow a new implement to see how it works. third, he who borrows never can be a good farmer. It is true that a young man, just starting, may be allowed to borrow some, but he should not establish the habit; or again, a man may borrow a new implement to see how it works.

A man who borrows is not as likely to use a tool as carefully as if it were his own, and consequently does not do careful, mice work. What can a man be thinking about when he borrows a steel plow, keeps it several days or a week, and brings it home as will be most likely the case, so dull as to be unfit for use? The owner can only take it to the shop, and at his own expense get it sharpened. If a man lends tools to one, there are several neighbors who will want to borrow; and thus it is, a harrow, for instance, may be going the rounds through the neighborhood all the season. It is every way desirable to cultivate what is called "good neighborhood," but this cannot be done where borrowing is practised.

Awful Affiction.

The following conversation was over-

BLOODY ISLAND.

The Famous Dueling Ground Opposite St. Louis-Some Noted Affairs of Honor.

When Louisiana became a territory of

the United States in 1804, by purchase from Napoleon the First, St. Louis was the capital of Upper Louisiana. It was only a thriving village, with its store-houses and cottages scattered along the rocky bank of the Mississippi. But with the change of government came a greater change; new faces brought new ideas. The trading Yankee and the chivalrous Southern jostled the emigrant from Great Britain and the continent. Human life had always been held cheaply; but not before had the peculiar trines of the code duello been recked supe ior to the code Napoleon, then the common law of the country. The lawyers of St. Louis were the first to give the go-by to the law. In 1817 Thomas H. Benton and Charles Lucas were pracing attorneys in the Territorial Courts. Lucas holding the office of Attorney-General. In the trial of an ordinary case sharp words and personalities were used by both lawyers. Benton, always a vin-dictive man, challenged Lucas; but the challege was declined, Lucas assuming that he would not be held responsible for words used in professional argument. Benton, intent upon satisfaction, continued to insult the General in such away that soon after Lucas sent him a challenge, slowly back he felt too glad to care that even his handsome face was a thing of the past. Then his neighbors began to come in, an the women sent him flowers and dainties, and many a one left her task to lighten the long days for him. But the young doctor was the one to whom he turned always, and when he was able to sit up in the pleasant September weather, the young man came to him and said, "Congratulate me, Phil.; to-morrow is my wedding day," he somehow did not need to ask who the bride was, but taking both his friend's hands in his two poor, wasted ones, he said:

Which was promptly accepted. The place of meeting agreed upon was an island in the river just opposite St. Louis. This island, afterward famons for its duels, was a long narrow strip of land, densely covered for half its area with young cottonwood trees. The island had sprung into existence since the days of the Spanish rule, and its tenure of existence was yet dependent upon the great river that had created to come in, and the river just opposite St. Louis. This island, afterward famons for its duels, was a long narrow strip of land, densely covered for half its area with young cottonwood trees. The island had sprung into existence since the days of the Spanish rule, and its tenure of existence was yet dependent upon the great river that had one and the river just opposite St. Louis. This island in the river just opposite St. Louis. This island, afterward famons for its duels, was a long narrow strip of land, densely covered for half its area with young cottonwood trees. The island in the river just opposite St. Louis. This island, afterward famons for its duels, was a long narrow strip of land, densely covered for half its area with young cottonwood trees. The island in the river just opposite St. Louis. This island, afterward famons for its duels, was a long narrow strip of land, densely covered for half its area with young cottonwood trees. The island in the river just opposite St. Louis. which was promptly accepted. The vond the reach of the law and its offi-

The hostile parties just named met on the island with their seconds, exchanged shots, and Lucas was wounded in the neck. The surgeons then interfered and the duel ended. One would think that Newspaper Rivalry.

The London Times is now sent into the country by special trains running at high speed, and is thus delivered at an exchange of illegal arguments the dignity of the law would be respected in future, but such was not the case. A few weeks later the same par early hour in scores of towns where it ties met again in the same thicket of formerly could not be obtained until cottonwoods, and this same Benton long after the local papers had been killed Lucas. The little narrow strip of

wood saplings on Bloody Island. In 1823 an article appeared in the Missouri Republican reflecting upon the official of running special trains to neighboring cities, the result has not been encouraging. Since the establishment of the telegraph all the great cities of the country have become news centers, and are in this respect on an equality with New Joshua Barton, a brother of David Bar-York. Thus the same telegraphic news will be found in the Chicago papers that is found in the New York papers, together with the local Chicago news which the New York papers do not, of course, contain. The latter cannot therefore.

Somula Barton, a brother of Pavin Barton, a brother of Pavi

the New York papers do not, of course, contain. The latter cannot, therefore, compete with the local papers of any ther city. If our papers were very greatly superior to those of Chicago, clincinnati, Philadelphia, or Boston, and could be sent through a pneumatic tube at a speed of 100 miles an hour, they might obtain the same practical monopoly of American journalism whigh the Spectator fancies that the London Times may obtain in England. Unfortunately, however, they are by no means better than the leading papers in other cities, nor is there any hope that they will be so long as the Associated Press and the telegraph monopolies exist.—New York Graphic.

A Bad Habit.

A farmer can get into no habit worse than that of borrowing tools, and for this pression. First, one who owns tools does not like to lend them, and thinks less of the man who borrows. Second, one nerver are care get may be the sense of the man who borrows. Second, one nerver care get may be the sense of the man who borrows. Second, one nerver care get may be the sense of the man who borrows. Second, one nerver care get may be the sense of the sample and server years tater and St. Louis had become with increase of population. The great Territors at seven years later and St. Louis had become with increase of population. The great Territors of Louisiana had been cut up into smaller parcels, and one of the se had become the binary to small who loves fresh lamb, and is seven years later and St. Louis had become with increase of population. The great Territors of Misscuri. Bloody I lake the dishonesty of the hunters was such as to compel the town officer, who smaller parcels, and one of the se had become the binary to shift the dishonesty of the hunters was such as to compel the town officer, who smaller parcels, and one of the se had become the binary to shift the almost and stream one of the seal become the wind one of the seal become the wind one of the seal become the wind one of the seal become the the bounty, to slit the ears of the manular parce

last of all, a giant bridge of steel binding the island fast to the other, the Missouri shore. Traffic, bustle, noise, perhaps pleasure; but not a trace of that earlier honor is left to Bloody Island.

Gentle Spring in the Household.

[From the Danbury News.] MOVING is not pleasant. It breaks up old associations and the skin on your

The only way of putting down a stain carpet without getting mad is to take the stairs out in the yard. Wz frankly confess that we do not understand why the shaving-cup is packed at the bottom of a barrel of

nware, or why a vest is used to wrap MANY articles which have become pleasant to us by long association, look

dreadfully cheap and dingy when loaded on a cart, with the neighboring window in direct range. One of the most trying problems is how to load the wagon so the best furni-ture will show to the neighbors. The carman who most carefully studies this

matter will do the largest business. It is carrying two lengths of stove-pipe with two elbows at opposite angles, through a narrow hall and up a carpeted stair without dropping soot or knocking off the plaster, that is filling our lunation asylums.

It is now pretty generally admitted that in moving or house-cleaning, a child will put away three times the amount of food as on any other occasion. Forty times a day the mother apprehensively inquires: "Land's sake! what's the matter with that child? Has it got tape-worm?

Which is heavier, a pound of lead or a A single pound of feathers is just as heavy as a pound of lead, but twenty-five pounds of feathers in a tick, in a narrow and crooked hallway is about as heavy as two hundred and eighteen pounds o

ABOUT the first thing a woman does in a moving, is to cut her fingers, and every object she wishes to call your attention to is pointed out with a hand that is covered by a half pound of carpet-rags, and smelling strong enough of arnica to knock over a stable boy. The injury is sometimes caused by closing her eyes when she is about to strike a nail, but is most frequently done in taking up tacks with a limber case-knife.

THERE wouldn't be so much moving were it not for woman. If a neighbor becomes a little offensive, or a landlord a trifle exacting, a woman will move at ances and chearfully submit to be knocked down and sat upon, rather than move. Moving is serious business to a man, whatever it may be to a woman, and did he have his way, the present number of carmen would be speedily and considerably reduced.

Wolf Scalps.

Probably not many of our readers have had occasion to use the phrase, " to keep the welf from the door," which so graphically expresses the labors of a family to prevent hunger from entering the home. The phrase could only have originated in a community where wolves were abundant and fierce. Formerly in New England they were so numerous that a bounty was paid for wolf-scalps,

Burn Kerosene the Right Way.

A correspondent of the New York Sun calls attention of all consumers of kerosene oil to the pernicious and unhealth; practice of using lamps filled with that article with the wicks turned down. The article with the wicks turned down. The gas which should be consumed by the flames is by this means left heavily in the air, while the cost of the oil thus saved at present prices would scarcely be one dollar a year for the lamps of a household. His attention was called particu-

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